

PUBLISHED DAILY IN LAPPIN'S BLOCK, JANEVILLE, WIS.  
By THOMSON & ROBERTS.  
The terms of the DAILY GAZETTE are as follows: Cash  
in Advance:  
THE CITY, by carriage per year, 70.00  
MATH. ONE YEAR, 8.00  
MATH. SIX MONTHS, 4.00  
MATH. THREE MONTHS, 2.00  
J. M. THOMSON, W. G. ROBERTS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

For local matter, city notices, railroad directory, arrival and departure of mails, and market reports, see fourth page.

The News.

The taking of Brimfield, and the evacuation of Charleston, as reported through rebel sources, are the leading items in the news this evening. The infamous rebel Winder, who has had charge of the prison at Andersonville where so many of our poor boys met their death, and who was known everywhere as "Hog Winder," died recently of apoplexy.

The fight against Jeff. Davis still goes on in the rebel Congress.

Two deserters were shot to-day in the Army of the Potomac.

A great rebel meeting was held in Richmond last Thursday. Hunter and Davis did what they could to "fire the Southern heart."

Cold is weak in the knees, closing at 2,004.

Official Report of the Peace Conference.

The President has sent to Congress all the notes, letters, telegrams, &c., that passed between himself, Mr. Seward, General Grant, Mr. Blair and the rebel commissioners, which led to the late peace conference at Fortress Monroe. We publish them herewith. It will be seen by the President's letter to Mr. Seward that three things were indispensable, to wit:

First.—The restoration of the National authority throughout all the States.

Second.—No receding by the Executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed therein in the late annual message to Congress and in the preceding documents.

Third.—No cessation of hostilities short of an end to the war and the disbanding of all the forces hostile to the Government.

Mr. Lincoln says at the conclusion of his message that there was no swerving from the above propositions. Any one will see, by reading the whole correspondence, that Jeff Davis figured with some adroitness to get a tacit recognition of his bogus concern from Mr. Lincoln—as his phrase of "the two countries" &c., shows.

The reader will find the whole correspondence worth pondering.

Fry Speaks.

Governor Lewis has received the following telegram from Gen. J. B. Fry, Provost Marshal-General, giving the Governor authority to appoint recruiting agents for new regiments:

Washington, Feb. 9, 1865.

To His Excellency, J. T. Lewis, Governor of Wisconsin:

You are authorized to appoint not to exceed three recruiting agents for each new company you are raising under the President's call.

(Signed) J. B. FRY, P. M. G.

Washington, Feb. 10, 1865.

Gov. J. T. Lewis:

The recruiting agents authorized by telegraph of yesterday have authority to enlist recruits.

(Signed) J. B. FRY, P. M. G.

The District Provost Marshals are also authorized to muster in recruits for the new organizations, and the mustering officers at Madison and Milwaukee will muster in recruits by detachments, as heretofore.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY AMENDMENT IN KENTUCKY.—The Louisville Journal concludes an editorial concerning the probable ratification of the anti-slavery amendment by three-fourths of the states, as follows:

"Here in Kentucky slavery exists only as a nominal institution. It is no longer a source of value, and it would be worse than folly for the state to make a struggle for its preservation. Our present Legislature, fairly looking the future—the irresistible future—in the face, should not delay to ratify the anti-slavery amendment. If the present Legislature do not adopt this course, the next will. Kentucky is bound to become a free state through the choice of her own people, and delay in settling the question can only complicate the process by which she will reach that destiny."

It appears the rebels are still lingering in their prisons many Southern Union men and civilians charged with Union proclivities. These men have no friends who, under the existing state of affairs in the South, dare intercede for them, and the consequence is they are made to suffer as badly as our soldier prisoners. It is said our government has a number of civilian prisoners, and efforts are making to get up an exchange which will release these sufferers. It will require, however, much effort in their behalf, and it is hoped all good citizens will aid the undertaking.

The Pilot (Catholic) of Boston, says that the letter of the Holy Father—which it warmly commends was originally drafted four years ago, and has since been the subject of an interchange of opinions among the most distinguished prelates of the Catholic Church. Instead, then, of emanating solely from Rome this extraordinary document would seem to be an average expression of Catholic opinion in these times.

MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILROAD.—The earnings of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, including the Eastern Division of the La Crosse Railroad, are for 1864, \$2,250,398; 1863, \$1,746,243; in excess for 1861, \$195,155.

GEN. GRANT'S DISBURSEMENT.—Office of the U. S. Military Telegraph, War Department.

The following dispatch was received at Washington, Jan. 31st, from

City Pt, 10:30 a. m., Jan. 31, '65.

To His Excellency, A. Lincoln, President of the United States:

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

# Janesville Daily Gazette.

JANESVILLE, WIS., MONDAY, FEB. 13, 1865.

NUMBER 296.

VOLUME 8.

## THE PEACE INTERVIEW.

The President's Message to the House on the Recent Peace Conference—Full Documentary History of the Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 10, 1865. To the Honorable the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 8th inst., requesting information in relation to a conference recently held in Hampton Roads, I have the honor to state that on the day of the date I gave Francis P. Blair, Senator, a card written on as follows:

MR. BLAIR'S PASS.

Allow the bearer, F. P. Blair, Senior, to pass our lines to go South and return.

(Signed.) A. LINCOLN.

That at the time I was informed that Mr. Blair sought the card as a means of getting to Richmond, Va., but he was given no authority to speak or act for the Government, nor was I informed of anything he would say or do on his own account or otherwise. Mr. Blair told me that he had been to Richmond and had seen Mr. Davis, and he, Blair, left with me at the same time, a manuscript letter, as follows:

JEFF. DAVIS TO BLAIR.

"RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 12, 1865.  
F. P. Blair, Esq.:

Sir: I have deemed it proper, and probably desirable to you, to give you in this form the substance of the remarks made by me to the speaker by you to President Lincoln. I have no disposition to find obstructions in form, and am willing now, as heretofore, to enter into negotiations for the restoration of peace. I am ready to send a commission whenever I have reason to suppose it will be received, or to receive a commission, if the United States Government shall choose to send one. Notwithstanding the rejection of our former offers, I would you could promise that a commissioner, minister, or other agent would be received, appoint one immediately and renew efforts to enter into a conference with a view to secure peace to the countries."

Yours, &amp;c., JEFF. DAVIS.

Afterwards with the view that it should be shown to Davis, I wrote and delivered to Blair a letter as follows:

PRESIDENT LINCOLN TO BLAIR.

"WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1865.  
F. P. Blair, Esq.:

"Sir: You have shown Mr. Davis my letter to you on the 12th inst., you may say to him that I have constantly been, and still continue, ready to receive any agent whom he or any other influential person now residing the national authority may formally send me with a view of securing peace to the people of our common country. A. LINCOLN."

Afterwards Mr. Blair dictated for, and authorized me to make an entry on the back of my returned copy of the letter last above received, which is as follows:

THE PRESIDENT'S MEMORANDUM.

JANUARY 28, 1865.—To-day Mr. Blair tells that on the 21st inst. he delivered to Mr. Davis the original of which the within is a copy, and left it with him; that at the time of delivering Mr. Davis read it over twice in Mr. Blair's presence, and at the close of which he (Blair) remarked that the part about our one common country related to the part of Mr. Davis' letter about two countries, to which Mr. Davis replied that he so understood it.

A. LINCOLN.

Here follows a number of telegrams, relating to the admission of Stephens, Hunter and Campbell into our lines; there having been some delay consequent on the absence of Gen. Grant.

The President then says: Afterwards, by my direction, the Secretary of War telegraphed Gen. Ord as follows:

STANTON TO ORD.

"WAR DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10—m. 1.  
January 29th, 1865.

To Maj. Gen. Ord, Headquarters Army of the James:

"By direction of the President you are instructed to inform the three gentlemen, Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, that a messenger will be dispatched to meet them at or near where they now are without unnecessary delay." (Signed.)

E. M. STANTON, Secy of War.

Afterwards I prepared and put into the hands of Maj. Thos. T. Eckert, the following:

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1865.

To Maj. T. T. Eckert:

Sir—You will proceed with the documents placed in your hands, and address them to him by the Secretary of War, and the operator has the letter addressed to him by the Secretary of War, then by Gen. Ord's assistance, procure an interview with Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, or any of them, and deliver to him or them the papers on which your own letter is written, note on the copy which you return the time of delivery and to whom delivered, receive their answer in writing, writing a reasonable time for it, and when, if it contain their decision to come through without further conditions, will be your warrant to ask Gen. Ord to pass them through as directed in the letter of the Secretary of War. If by their answer they decline to come or propose other terms, do not have them passed through; and this being your whole duty return and report to me.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

THE PRESIDENT TO THE REBEL COMMISSIONERS.

To Messrs. Alexander H. Stephens, J. A. Campbell, and R. M. T. Hunter:

GENTLEMEN: I am instructed by the President of the United States to place this paper in your hands, with the information that if you go through the United States military lines, it will be understood that you do so for the purpose of an informal conference on the basis of that letter, a copy of which is on the reverse side of this sheet, and that if you choose to pass on such understanding, and so notify me in writing, I will procure the commanding General to pass you through the lines, and to Fortress Monroe, under such military precautions as he may deem prudent, and at which place you will be met in due time by some person or persons for the purpose of such informal conference, and further that you shall have protection, safe conduct and safe return, in all events.

(Signed)

THOMAS T. ECKERT,  
Major and Adj.-Gen.

GEN. GRANT'S DISBURSEMENT.

Office of the U. S. Military Telegraph, War Department.

The following dispatch was received at Washington, Jan. 31st, from

City Pt.

To His Excellency, A. Lincoln, President of the United States:

[CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.]

## BY TELEGRAPH.

Reported Expressly for the Gazette.

## THE WAR FOR THE UNION!

## Matters at the Capital!

## Important Military Rumors!

## Branchville Said to be Captured!

## And Charleston Evacuated!

## Grant before the Military Com.

## THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS!

## Imp'tant from the South!

## The Rebel Military Situation!

## Great War Meeting in Richmond,

## DEATH OF THE REBEL GEN. WINDER!

## Miscellaneous Items from N. York!

## Henry S. Foot gone to Europe!

## FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Gen. Grant was before the Committee on the Conduct of the War this morning. The following question was asked him:

It is asked upon what authority I do not know, that you are charged entirely with the exchange of prisoners?

Answer.—"That is correct, and what is more, I have effected an arrangement for the exchange of prisoners, man for man, or officer for officer, or his equivalent according to the old customs, until one or the other party has exhausted the number they now hold. I receive a great many letters daily from friends of prisoners in the South, every one of which I cause to be answered, telling them that this arrangement has been made, and that I suppose exchanges will be made at the rate of 3,000 a week, and just as fast as they can deliver prisoners to us, I will receive them and deliver them to our prisoners to them, and the Southern prisoners will be coming right on at once. He said that he could bring them at the rate of 5,000 or 6,000 a week."

Question.—"There is no impediment in the way?"

Answer.—"There is no impediment on our side, I could deliver and receive every one of them in very short time if they would deliver those that they hold. We have lost some two weeks lately on account of the ice in the river."

Soon after the reading of this part of the testimony, before the committee on the conduct of the war, Lieut. Gen. Grant came into the hall, accompanied by several friends. As soon as he entered the hall, a crowd gathered around him to such an extent as to interfere with the order of business. Mr. Mallory moved that the House take a recess for ten minutes, to pay their respects to Lieut. Gen. Grant. This was unanimously agreed to, and the members generally then thronged around him, and then came to the area in front of the Clerk's desk, escorted by Representative Odell. The members were formally introduced to him by the Speaker of the House. There were frequent outbursts of applause from the floor and galleries.

Representative Schenck in order that the Lieut. General might be officially introduced to the representatives of the people, moved that he be invited and escorted to the Speaker's stand. This was unanimously acquiesced in. General Grant was escorted by the Speaker to the stand, when the latter said—"Gentlemen, I have the honor to introduce to you our heroic defender in the field, the Lieutenant General of the Army of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant." The introduction was succeeded by another outburst of applause from the floor of the galleries. Gen. Grant bowed in acknowledgement of the compliment, and after a slight pause retired from the stand. The audience again

applauded him as he withdrew.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Senator Trumbull and Representatives Wilson, of Iowa, and Dawson, of Pennsylvania, compose a joint committee to meet upon President Lincoln and inform him of his re-election, and also to notify Andrew Johnson of his election to the Vice Presidency.

FROM THE SOUTH.

New York, Feb. 12.—A partial account of a great rebel meeting in Richmond Thursday noon shows that Hunter presided, making a fire-eating speech followed by Jeff Davis, Gen. Marshall Gilmore and others. Jeff and all his cabinet, Lee, Longstreet, Hill, and all in full uniform and all the rebel functionaries in Richmond were present. The gathering of traitors and rebels was one of the largest ever held.

New York, Feb. 13.—The Tribune's Washington special says it is generally understood that to-night in official circles that Hunter is in Sherman's possession and that Charleston is being evacuated. It is expected that Richmond and Washington will be evacuated also and that the rebels will make a desperate attempt to concentrate their entire force and endeavor to crush Sherman while he is in the interior. There is no doubt but that stores, &c., have been removed south from Richmond lately, which looks to its abandonment as no distant event.

The Petersburg Express says the fighting on Monday was very severe. Timber and undergrowth were literally cut in pieces by balls and bullets and the ground was fought over four times in consequence of the arrival of reinforcements to either side. The charge which broke the Yankee lines late in the day is said to have been one of the greatest scenes in military annals. The Yankees lost between 1,500 and 2,000 killed and wounded and 2,000 prisoners.

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MONDAY, FEB. 13, 1865.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]  
The following communication was received here last evening:

THE COMMISSIONERS TO GEN. GRANT.  
PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 30, 1865.  
Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, Commanding Armies of the United States.

Sir.—We desire to pass your lines under safe conduct and to proceed to Washington to hold a conference with President Lincoln upon the subject of the existing war, and with a view of ascertaining upon what terms it may be terminated. We pursued the course indicated by him in his letter to Mr. Blair of Jan. 18th, 1865, in which we presume you have a copy of which we present to you in person, or if not, we wish to see you in person, if convenient, and to confer with you on the subject.

Very respectfully yours,  
ALEX. H. STEPHENS,  
J. A. CAMPBELL,  
R. M. T. HUNTER.

I have sent directions to receive them at my quarters this evening, awaiting your instructions.

U. S. GRANT.

Lieut. Gen. Comdg. Armies U. S. This it will be perceived, transferred Gen. Ord's agency in the matter to Gen. Grant. I resolved, however, to send Major Eckert forward with his message, and accordingly telegraphed "Gen. Grant is as follows:

THE PRESIDENT TO GEN. GRANT,

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1865.

Lieut. Gen. Grant, City Point, Va.—A messenger is coming to you on the business contained in your dispatch. Detain the gentleman in comfortable quarters until he arrives, and then act upon the message he brings, as far as applicable, if having been made to pass through Gen. Ord's hands, and when the gentlemen were supposed to be beyond our lines.

A. LINCOLN.

When Maj. Eckert departed, he bore with him a letter of the Secretary of War to Gen. Grant, as follows:

MR. STANTON TO GEN. GRANT,

"WAR DEPARTMENT,"

Lieut. Gen. Grant, Commanding &c., GENERAL T. T. ECKERT, that you will please procure the bearer, Maj. T. T. Eckert, an interview with Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell. If on his return to you he requests it pass through our lines to Fort Monroe, by such route and under such due precautions as you may deem prudent, giving them comfortable quarters while there, and that you let none of this have any effect upon your movements or plans."

"By order of the President,  
E. M. STANTON,"

Supposing the proper point to be then reached, I dispatched the Secretary of State with the following instructions, Major Eckert, however, going ahead of him:

MR. SEWARD'S INSTRUCTIONS.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1865.  
Hon. Wm. H. Seward, Secy. of State.

You will proceed to Fortress Monroe to meet and informally confer with Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell on the basis of my letter to Mr. Blair, Esq., of January 15th, '65, a copy of which you have. You will make known to them that three things are indispensable, to wit:

THE COMMISSIONERS' FIRST REPLY.

"City Point, Feb. 1, 1865.  
To Thomas T. Eckert, Major and A. D. C.

"Major. Your note, delivered by yourself this day, has been considered. In reply we have to say that we were furnished with a copy of the letter of President Lincoln to F. P. Blair, of the 18th of January, ult., another copy of which is appended to your note. Our intentions are contained in a letter, of which the following is a copy:

RICHMOND, Jan. 28, 1865.

"In conformity with the letter of Mr. Lincoln, of which the foregoing is a copy, you are to proceed to Washington City for informal conference with him upon the issues involved in the existing war, and for the purpose of securing peace to the two countries."

"With great respect, your obedient servant,

"JEFFERSON DAVIS."

"The substantial object to be obtained by the informal conference is to ascertain upon what terms the existing war can be terminated honorably. Our instructions contemplate a personal interview between President Lincoln and ourselves at Washington; but with this explanation we are ready to meet any person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint at such place as he may designate. Our earnest desire is that a just and honorable peace may be agreed upon, and we are prepared to receive or to submit propositions which may possibly lead to the attainment of that end. Very respectfully yours,

ALEX. H. STEPHENS,

R. M. T. HUNTER,

A note of these gentlemen subsequently addressed to Gen. Grant, has already been given in Major Eckert's dispatch of the 31st.

"I also have here for the first time the following note addressed by the Richmond gentlemen to Major Eckert:

THE SECOND REPLY:

"City Point, Va., Feb. 1, 1865.  
T. T. Eckert, Major and A. D. C.

"Major. In reply to your verbal statement that your instructions did not allow you to alter the conditions upon which a passport could be given to us, we say that we are willing to proceed to Fort Monroe, there to have an informal conference with our person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint, on the basis of his letter to F. P. Blair of the 18th of January, ult., upon any other terms or conditions than he may determine to be necessary to secure a just and honorable peace.

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PUBLISHED DAILY IN LAPPIN'S BLOCK, JANEVILLE, WIS.  
BY THOMSON & ROBERTS.

10c of the Daily Gazette is as follows: —  
ADVANCE 19 00  
THE CITY, by carriage per year 20  
MAIL, ONE YEAR, 8 00  
SIX MONTHS, 4 00  
THREE MONTHS, 2 00  
A. M. THOMSON. W. G. ROBERTS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

For local matter, city notices, railroad directory, arrival and departure of mails, and market reports, see fourth page.

## The News.

The taking of Branchville, and the evacuation of Charleston, as reported through rebel sources, are the leading items in the news this evening. The infamous rebel, Winder, who has had charge of the prison at Andersonville where so many of our poor boys met their death, and who was known everywhere as "Hog Winder," died recently of apoplexy.

The fight against Jeff. Davis still goes on in the rebel Congress.

Two deserters were shot to-day in the Army of the Potomac.

A great rebel meeting was held in Richmond last Thursday. Hunter and Davis did what they could to "fire the Southern heart."

Gold is weak in the knees, closing at 2,000.

## Official Report of the Peace Conference.

The President has sent to Congress all the notes, letters, telegrams, etc., that passed between himself, Mr. Seward, General Grant, Mr. Blair and the rebel commissioners, which led to the late peace conference at Fortress Monroe. We publish them herewith. It will be seen by the President's letter to Mr. Seward that these things were indispensable, to wit:

First—The restoration of the National authority throughout all the States.

Second—No receding by the Executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed thereon in the late annual message to Congress and in the preceding documents.

Third—No cessation of hostilities short of an end to the war and the disbanding of all the forces hostile to the Government.

Mr. Lincoln says at the conclusion of his message that there was no swerving from the above propositions. Any one will see, by reading the whole correspondence, that Jeff Davis figured with some adroitness to get a tacit recognition of his fugus concern from Mr. Lincoln—as his phrase of "the two countries," &c., shows.

The reader will find the whole correspondence worth pondering.

## Fry Speaks.

Governor Lewis has received the following telegram from Gen. J. D. Fry, Provost Marshal-General, giving the Governor authority to appoint recruiting agents for new regiments:

Washington, Feb. 9, 1865.  
To His Excellency, J. T. Lewis, Governor of Wisconsin:

You are authorized to appoint not to exceed three recruiting agents for each now company you are raising under the President's call.

(Signed) Jas. B. FRY, P. M. G.  
Washington, Feb. 10, 1865.

The recruiting agents authorized by telegraph of yesterday have authority to enlist recruits.

(Signed) J. B. FRY, P. M. G.

The District Provost Marshals are also authorized to muster in the recruits for the new organizations, and the mustering officers at Madison and Milwaukee will muster in recruits by detachments, as heretofore.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY AMENDMENT IN KENTUCKY.—The Louisville Journal concludes an editorial concerning the probable ratification of the anti-slavery amendment by three fourths of the states, as follows:

"Here in Kentucky slavery exists only as a nominal institution. It is no longer a source of value, and it would be worse than folly for the state to make a struggle for its preservation. Our present Legislature, fairly looking to the future—the irresistible future—in the face, should not delay to ratify the anti-slavery amendment. If the present Legislature do not adopt this course, the next will. Kentucky is bound to become a free state through the choice of her own people, and delay in settling the question can only complicate the process by which she will reach that destiny."

It appears the rebels are gathering in their prisons many Southern Union men and civilians charged with Union proclivities. These men have no friends who, under the existing state of affairs in the South, dare intercede for them, and the consequence is they are made to suffer as badly as our soldier prisoners. It is said our government has a number of civilian prisoners, and efforts are making to get up an exchange which will release these sufferers. It will require, however, much effort in their behalf, and it is hoped all good citizens will aid the undertaking.

The Pilot (Catholic) of Boston, says that the letter of the Holy Father—which it warmly commands was originally drafted four years ago, and has since been the subject of an interchange of opinions among the most distinguished prelates of the Catholic Church. Instead, then of emanating solely from Rome this extraordinary document would seem to be an average expression of Catholic opinion in these times.

MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILROAD.—The earnings of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, including the Eastern Division of the La Crosse Railroad, are for 1864, \$2,259,308; 1863, \$1,746,243; increase for 1864, \$425,155.

The Linden Hotel of St. Louis, with its furniture, cost \$1,520,400. Another similar concern, called the Southern Hotel, is in progress, with six stories, or 101 feet high, and with rooms for 361 guests.

## Janesville Daily Gazette.

VOLUME 8.

JANESVILLE, WIS., MONDAY, FEB. 13, 1865.

NUMBER 296.

## THE PEACE INTERVIEW.

The President's Message to the House on the Recent Peace Conference—Full Documentary History of the Affairs.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Feb. 10, 1865. To the Honorable the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 8th inst., requesting information in relation to a conference recently held in Hampton Roads, I have the honor to state that on the day of the date I gave Francis P. Blair, Senior, a card written on as follows:

MR. BLAIR'S PASS.

Allow the bearer, F. P. Blair, Senior, to pass our lines to go South and return.

(Signed.) A. LINCOLN.

That at the time I was informed that Mr. Blair sought the card as a means of getting to Richmond, Va., but he was given no authority to speak or act for the Government, nor was I informed of anything he would say or do on his own account or otherwise. Mr. Blair told me that he had been to Richmond and had seen Mr. Davis, and he, Blair, left with me at the same time, a manuscript letter, as follows:

JEFF DAVIS TO BLAIR.

"RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 12, 1865.

"Sir: I have deemed it proper, and probably desirable to you, to give you in this form the substance of the remarks made by me to be repeated by you to President Lincoln. I have no disposition to find obstacles in forms, and am willing now, as heretofore, to enter into negotiations for the restoration of peace. I am ready to send a commission whenever I have reason to suppose it will be received, or to receive a commission, if the United States Government shall choose to send one. Notwithstanding the rejection of our former offers, I would if you could promise that a commissioner, minister, or other agent would be received, appoint one immediately and renew efforts to enter into a conference with a view to secure peace to the country.

Yours, &amp;c., JEFF DAVIS.

Afterwards with the view that it should be shown to Davis, I wrote and delivered to Blair a letter as follows:

PRESIDENT LINCOLN TO BLAIR.

"WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1865.

"Sir: You having shown Mr. Davis my letter to you on the 12th inst., you may say to him that I have constantly been, and now, and shall continue, ready to receive any agent whom he or any other influential person now resisting the national authority may informally send me with a view of securing peace to the people of our common country. A. LINCOLN.

Afterwards Mr. Blair dictated for, and authorized me to make an entry on, the back of my returned copy of the letter last above received, which is as follows:

THE PRESIDENT'S MEMORANDUM.

JANUARY 23, 1865.—To-day Mr. Blair told that on the 21st inst. he delivered to Mr. Davis the original of which with in a copy, and left it with him; that at the time of delivering Mr. Davis read it over twice in Mr. Blair's presence, at the close of which Mr. Blair remarked that the part about our one common country related to the part of Mr. Davis' letter about two countries, to which Mr. Davis replied that he so understood it.

ANSWER.—That is correct, and what is more, I have effected an arrangement for an exchange of prisoners, man for man and officer for officer, or his equivalent according to the old cartels, until one or the other party has exhausted the number they now hold. I receive a great many letters daily from friends of prisoners in the South, every one of which I cause to be answered, telling them that this arrangement has been made, and that I suppose exchanges will be made at the rate of 3,000 a week, and just as fast as can be done. The enemy are not now, I will receive them and deliver their prisoners to them, and the Salubrious prisoners will be coming right on. I myself saw Col. Hatch, the assistant commissioner of exchange on the part of the South, and he told me that the Salisbury and Danville prisoners would be coming right on at once. He said that he could bring them at the rate of 5,000 or 6,000 a week.

ANSWER.—There is no impediment in the way?

ANSWER.—There is no impediment on our side. I could deliver and receive every one of them in a very short time if they would deliver those that they hold. We have lost some two weeks lately on account of the ice in the river.

ANSWER.—Soon after the reading of this part of the testimony, before the committee on the conduct of the war, Lieut. Gen. Grant came into the hall, accompanied by several friends. As soon as he was noticed, a crowd gathered around him to such an extent as to interfere with the order of business. Mr. Mallory moved that the House take a recess for ten minutes, to pay their respects to Lieut. Gen. Grant. This was unanimously agreed to, and the members generally then thronged around him, and then came to the area in front of the Clerk's desk, escorted by Representative Odell. The members were formally introduced to him by the Speaker of the House. There were frequent outbursts of applause from the floor and galleries.

Representative Schenck in order that the Lieut.-General might be officially introduced to the representatives of the people, moved that he be invited and escorted to the Speaker's stand. This was unanimously acquiesced in. General Grant was escorted by the Speaker to the stand, when the latter said—"Gentlemen, I have the honor to introduce to you our hero defender in the field, the Lieutenant General of the Army of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant." The introduction was succeeded by another outburst of applause from the floor of the galleries. Gen. Grant bowed in acknowledgement of the compliment, and after a slight pause retired from the stand. The audience again applauded as he withdrew.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Senator Trumbull and Representatives Wilson, of Iowa, and Dawson, of Pennsylvania, compose a joint committee to wait upon President Lincoln and inform him of his re-election, and also to notify Andrew Johnson of his election to the Vice Presidency.

STANTON TO ORD.

"WAR DEPARTMENT," WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—a. m. January 29th, 1865.

To Maj. Gen. Ord, Headquarters Army of the James:

"By direction of the President you are instructed to inform the three gentlemen, Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, that a messenger will be dispatched to meet them at or near where they now are without unnecessary delay. (Signed.)

E. S. STANTON, Secy of War.

Afterwards I prepared and put into the hands of Maj. Thos. T. Eckert, the following:

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1865.

To Maj. T. T. Eckert:

"Sir: You will proceed with the documents placed in your hands, and on reaching Gen. Ord will deliver him the letter addressed to him by the Secretary of War.

Gen. Ord's assistance, procure an interview with Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, or any of them, and deliver to him or them the papers on which your letter is written, note on the copy which you return the time of delivery to whom delivered, receive their answer in writing, waiting a reasonable time for it, and which, if it contain their decision to come through without further conditions, will be your warrant to call Gen. Ord to pass them through as directed in the letter of the Secretary of War. If by their answer they decline to come or propose other terms, do not have them passed through; and this being your whole duty return and report to me.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

THE PRESIDENT TO THE REBEL COMMISSIONERS, "To Messrs. Alexander H. Stephens, J. A. Campbell, and R. M. T. Hunter:

"GENTLEMEN: I am instructed by the President of the United States to place this paper in your hands, with the information that if you go through the United States military lines, it will be understood that you do so for the purpose of an informal conference on the basis of that letter, a copy of which is on the reverse side of this sheet, and that if you choose to pass on such understanding, and so notify me in writing, I will procure the Commanding General to pass you through the lines, and to Fortress Monroe, under such military precautions as he may deem prudent, and at which place you will be met in due time by some person or persons for the purpose of such informal conference, and further that you shall have protection, safe conduct and, safe return, in all events.

The Petersburg Express says that

the letter of the Holy Father—which it

warmly commands was originally drafted

four years ago, and has since been the

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Catholic Church. Instead, then of emanating

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(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.)

## BY TELEGRAPH.

Reported Expressly for the Gazette.

## THE WAR FOR THE UNION!

Matters at the Capital!

## Important Military Rumors!

Branchville said to be captured

## And Charleston Evacuated!

## Grant before the Military Com.!

## THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS!

## Imp'tant from the South!

## The Rebel Military Situation!

## Great War Meeting in Richmond,

## Movements of Gen. Sherman

## DEATH OF THE REBEL GEN. WINDER!

## Miscellaneous Items from N. York!

## Henry S. Foot gone to Europe!

## FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Gen. Grant was before the Committee on the Conduct of the War this morning. The following question was asked him:

"It is stated, upon what authority I do not know, that you are charged entirely with the exchange of prisoners?

ANSWER.—That is correct, and what is more, I have effected an arrangement for an exchange of prisoners, man for man and officer for officer, or his equivalent according to the old cartels, until one or the other party has exhausted the number they now hold.

I receive a great many letters daily from friends of prisoners in the South, every one of which I cause to be answered, telling them that this arrangement has been made, and that I suppose exchanges will be made at the rate of 3,000 a week, and just as fast as can be done. The enemy are not now, I will receive them and deliver their prisoners to them, and the Salubrious prisoners will be coming right on.

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As soon as he was noticed, a crowd gathered around him to such an extent as to interfere with the order of business.

Mr. Mallory moved





MONDAY, FEB. 13, 1865.

## CITY AND COUNTY.

## RAILROAD DIRECTORY.

## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.

## TRAVELERS &amp; NORTHWESTERN.

## MAIL PASSENGER.

## NIGHT.

## Janesville post.

## ARRIVED.

## 11:05 P.M.

## ARRIVED.

## 9:35 P.M.

## ARRIVED.

## 11:35 P.M.

## ARRIVED.

## 11:35 P.M.

## ARRIVED.

## ARRIVED.